

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

COME-00 OMB-01 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 /072 W

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R 220935Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8668

INFO USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU

COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, JA

SUBJECT: DIET RESUMES DELIBERATIONS

SUMMARY. AS A RESULT OF AGREEMENT REACHED APRIL 21, WHICH INCLUDED DISPATCH OF A SPECIAL ENVOY AND A SUPRA-PARTISAN DIET GROUP TO THE US. THE DIET RESUMED DELIBERATIONS APRIL 22. THERE IS NO CLEAR INDICATION WHO THE SPECIAL ENVOY WILL BE -- ALTHOUGH THE ODDS STILL APPEAR TO FAVOR FONMIN MIYAZAWA -- OR WHEN HE MIGHT DEPART. END SUMMARY.

1. FOLLOWING APRIL 21 AGREEMENT ON FORMULA FOR RESUMPTION OF DIET PROCEEDINGS, LOWER HOUSE PLENARY SESSION CONVENED AFTERNOON OF APRIL 22 TO HEAR GOVERNMENT INTRODUCTION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCING BILLS. VARIOUS COMMITTEE DIRECTORS MET APRIL 22 IN ATTEMPT TO REOPEN COMMITTEE BUSINESS, BUT COMMITTEE SESSIONS ARE NOT EXPECTED BEFORE TOMORROW (APRIL 23). UPPER HOUSE BUDGET COMMITTEE, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO CONDUCT BUDGET HEARINGS BEFORE MAY 8 AUTOMATIC UPPER HOUSE PASSAGE OF JFY 76 BUDGET, IS NOT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LIKELY TO CONVENE BEFORE NEXT WEEK, ALTHOUGH THERE IS

SOME POSSIBILITY THAT IT MAY HOLD HEARINGS TOMORROW. BUDGET COMMITTEE WILL IN ALL LIKELIHOOD BECOME STAGE FOR OPPOSITION ATTACKS ON ENTIRE RANGE OF ISSUES -- LOCKHEED, CIA, DEFENSE POLICY, ETC. -- AND WILL BE SCENE OF ACrimonious DEBATE FOR NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS.

2. IDENTITY AND TIMING OF DISPATCH OF SPECIAL LOCKHEED ENVOY HAS NOT YET BEEN DECIDED. FONMIN SOURCES HAVE INDICATED THAT GOJ IS IN NO HURRY TO ACT, HOWEVER, AND THAT ENVOY, WHEN NAMED, MAY NOT DEPART UNTIL MID-MAY. IN THE MEANTIME, THE PRESS HAS NOTED THAT FONMIN MIYAZAWA WILL BE DEEPLY INVOLVED IN DIET BUSINESS DURING NEXT MONTH AND MENTIONED SEVERAL OTHER CANDIDATES FOR THE ENVOY JOB, INCLUDING FORMER FONMINS TOSHIO KIMURA AND ZENTARO KOSAKA AND FORMER AMB TO US NOBUHIKO USHIBA.

3. THE MAJOR STICKING POINT IN REACHING AGREEMENT ON THE RESUMPTION OF DIET BUSINESS WAS THE OPPOSITION'S INSISTENCE TO THE LAST THAT THE GOJ SPECIFICALLY AGREE TO REVEAL THE NAMES OF OFFICIALS WHO MIGHT BE IMPLICATED, BUT NOT INDICTED, IN THE LOCKHEED AFFAIR. UNDER A PROVISIO OF ARTICLE 47 OF THE CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE, THE GOVERNMENT MAY REVEAL INFORMATION ACCUMULATED IN THE COURSE OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS IF IT IS DETERMINED IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST TO DO SO. FINAL VERSION OF DIET NORMALIZATION AGREEMENT DOES NOT REFER SPECIFICALLY TO APPLICATION OF ARTICLE 47. BOTH PRIMIN MIKI AND LOWER HOUSE SPEAKERS HAVE STATED, HOWEVER, THAT ARTICLE 47 WOULD APPLY IN THIS CASE AND OPPOSITION WAS SUFFICIENTLY SATISFIED TO AGREE TO NORMALIZATION.

4. COMMENT. DISCLOSURE ISSUE COULD CONCEIVABLY BECOME A POINT OF CONTENTION IN THE FUTURE. AS OPPOSITION WILL BE SEEKING TO HOLD MIKI TO ITS INTERPRETATION OF THE AGREEMENT. BUT WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT COMMITMENT TO CONSIDER THE APPLICATION OF THIS PROVISIO AT A FUTURE DATE POSES ANY PROBLEMS FOR THE US, AS IT IS MOST LIKELY THAT THE GOJ, SHOULD IT DECIDE TO RELEASE OFFICIALLY ANY LOCKHEED INFORMATION, WILL MAKE IT CLEAR THAT SUCH INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED IN COURSE OF ITS OWN INVESTIGATIONS.

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